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THRU THE GREEN

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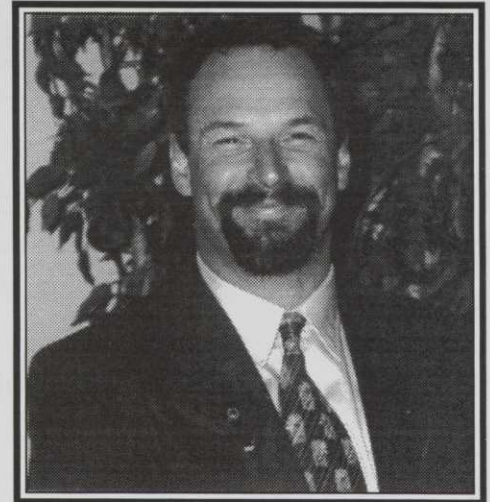
THRU THE GREEN

From The President

We seem to finally be on the verge of Summer. It seems that we have again missed Spring but as always we will find a way to bring our courses and businesses up to speed. For those of you unable, unwilling or uninterested enough to participate in the activities hosted by our Sierra Nevada neighbors in Reno, you missed a great program. It was perhaps the best one day educational program I have attended. Take the time to get into a class by Gerry Sweda, Bob Sexton or Dan Church — they were great. Speaking of lower than expected participation, many of you superintendents missed the annual Superintendent/Pro event hosted by Joel Aherns and San Jose Country Club. Those that made it had a great time, thanks to Joel, Head Pro Jay Walkinshaw, and the entire staff at San Jose. The course was exceptional (how's that rough coming along Joel ?) and the service and hospitality were top notch. A special thank you to those Affiliate members that were able to adjust their schedules to participate at the last minute. This question was raised at the event, "has this event run it's course? Is there enough interest to continue and if so should the format be reviewed?" Any opinions????

The media event is just around the corner. San Juan Oaks, July 26th. Should be a fun time for all. I've spoken enough about the importance of developing these relationships. Hope to see a great turnout.

One final thought. I have had the opportunity to work with some very dedicated individuals during the course of the last 3 years on the Board. We always make mention during the annual meeting of their efforts but this seemed like a good time to acknowledge them again. Ken Williams has taken over the Newsletter and aside from one questionable picture is doing a great job. Terry Grasso works very hard formatting each golf event. I am sure his intake of excedrin has increased, I know the number of phone calls I get from him has increased. Bob Costa and



Dave Davies, CGCS

Gary Carls continue to put together educational programs and the ground work for the media program. Mike Nunemacher was convinced to stay on another year in spite of a major renovation project in the near future. Steve Franzen and Craig Kilcoyne continue to work on behalf of the Affiliate membership trying to refine the sponsorship program and put together a fund raising event. These people are working on your behalf, above and beyond their regular jobs. Take a moment and recognize their efforts.

See you at San Juan Oaks. /

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

1999 is half gone! Boy, what perspective that gives. Some "tidbits".

- The Association has grown by 43 members.
- There have been 26 position available notices processed by the Association since February.
- The GCSANC Web Site <http://www.gcsaa.cgcsaNorCal> was linked to GCSAA and revamped (courtesy of Bob Tillema, CGCS thanks !)

See Office Notes Cont'd on page 3

Tough Track for Superintendent-Pro

The 1999 Superintendent-Pro Tournament was held last month at San Jose CC. Host Superintendent Joel Ahern had the course in beautiful tournament condition. The course was not long, but provided a stern challenge for both pros and superintendents alike. The course required straight driving and its small sloping greens were fast and firm. Most importantly, the event helped solidify the relationships between GCSANC superintendents and their golf professionals.

Thanks go out to Terry Grasso, Intelecady, and all the people at San Jose CC for an extremely well run event.

Tournament Results:

Pro - Individual

1) Rich Bin, Palo Alto Municipal	75	\$400
2) Byron Cone, Fountaingrove	76	\$250
3) Jay Walkinshaw, San Jose CC	76	\$150

Supt. - Individual Gross

1) Ross Brownlie, Mariner's Point	81	\$125
2) Michael Garvale, Palo Alto Hills	83	\$100
3) Michael Hill, Moffet Field	84	\$ 75

Supt. - Individual Net

1) Jeff Hardy, Laguna Seca	73	\$125
2) Andrew Trinkino, Fountaingrove	75	\$100
3) Gary Skolnik, Fountaingrove	77	\$ 75

Team Net

1) Ross Brownlie/Joby Ross, Mariner's Point	63	\$175
2) Chris Gose/Mark Petersen, Sunnyvale	66	\$125
3) Gill Stiles/Tom Sims, Hiddenbrooke	66	\$100

Team Gross

1) Dave Davies/Rich Bin, Palo Alto Municipal	69	\$175
2) Michael Hill/Larry Jost, Moffet Field	69	\$125
3) Joel Ahern/Jay Walkinshaw, San Jose CC	71	\$100

Office Notes (Cont'd)

- The GCANC Bylaws were revised.
- Media Director, Greg Crawford introduced Dave Davies, CGCS, President of GCSANC to the San Francisco Bay Area via "Hooked on Golf."
- The First Annual Field Workshop was held at Crystal Springs Golf Course.
- The new annual Media Day Tournament is well on its way.
- Revamped "Thru the Green" advertising program & sponsorship has been launched.
- Meeting sponsorship has been implemented.
- The 1999 Membership Directory revamped.
- I have lost tract of the number of trips made to Lawrence, Kansas by GCSANC Officers, Board of Directors and members serving GCSAA's Committees.

Terry's Tournament Tips

by Terry Grasso

GCSANC is happy to announce it's first ever Media Day, July 26, 1999. Come out to the beautiful San Juan Oaks golf course and meet members of the print and electronic media from Northern California. Golf will be a scramble format, so bring a guest and join in on what will be one of the most enjoyable events of the year.

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Media Day Is All About Relationships

By: Bob Costa

Six months into the media program you may be asking, "How is the program doing?" A valid question certainly, and quite frankly one that should be asked. If your expectations were that superintendents would be featured in lots of high profile stories, I'd say you've been disappointed. If you were hoping simply that the media would know who we are, then I suggest it's been a success.

As the chairman of the Public Relations Committee and an impatient person by nature, no one wishes more that we had recorded a few more media hits. However, as crazy as it may seem, that really hasn't been our objective during the first six months. Remember when this program began, members of the local media really didn't know who we were. We had no foundation upon which to build. The primary objective since January has been to identify media representatives who have an interest in golf and begin to foster relationships with them. This process is intended to culminate with the inaugural Media Day tournament scheduled for July 26th. ↗

The tournament planning committee has extended formal invitations to each of the writers and sports anchors throughout the Bay Area and Monterey Peninsula. The objective is to expose them to our Association and to our members. In an effort to work towards that goal, media attendees and members will be seated by geographical region. The golf that follows will pair a media representative with members and affiliates. If the event proves to be a success, we will have developed the relationships that are vital for future stories and recognition.

As has been the position of the P.R. Committee from the outset, member involvement will ultimately determine the success of the media program. On behalf of the committee, I hope that you will consider participating in an event that not only guarantees to be enjoyable, but also may likely have an impact on your profession. We welcome members and affiliates alike, to join us at San Juan Oaks. ↗

When We Participate, Everyone Wins!

By: Craig Kilcoyne

Time is approaching for our Northern California Golf Course Superintendents Annual Research and Scholarship Tournament. You may ask yourself why do I need to support the GCSANC scholarship drive? The answer is simple. The success of our industry relies, at least in part, on attracting the best and brightest to our ranks. Past scholarship recipients like Stephen Leas at De Laveaga and Jason Green at Los Altos G&CC, along with many others, are already contributing to the future of golf turf management in Northern California. On the research side, we have supported the University of California bentgrass trials of Dr. Ali Harivandi and Dr. Robert Green's *Poa annua* studies.

So how can you help? By first attending this enjoyable day of golf and camaraderie at the Rossmoor GC on Aug. 16th, and inviting others to participate. Second, we are seeking as many prize donations as possible. If your club can provide complimentary rounds of golf, golf merchandise, or make a monetary donation, it will ensure the continued success of our scholarship and research efforts. We will recognize your generosity numerous times and ways at the event as well as in our newsletter, "Thru the Green."

We hope you will support our association in this worthwhile endeavor. Please make checks payable to GCSANC and forward to our Diamond Springs office. If you have questions, don't hesitate to call Scholarship Tournament Cochairmen Craig Kilcoyne (925) 685-6685 ext. 114, or Steve

Franzen (209) 601-9181. Barb Mikel (530) 626-0931 can also be reached at the GCSANC office. Thanks for supporting the future of golf. See you at Rossmoor! ↗

Ball Mark Repair Week Set To Begin July 26th

By Greg Crawford

Purpose: To educate golfers and the media about this important maintenance problem for golf course superintendents.

Goals: To get every golfer during this week to not only repair their own ball mark, but to repair two others on each green without holding up play. It will be stressed that this should continue throughout their golfing careers.

Plan of Action: Get the message out to the media and to superintendents through Media Director Greg Crawford about the importance of this week. Media - to try to get the message in their publications. Superintendents - Stress to their players the importance of ball mark repairs and why we are having this week.

Schedule: One press release per week on the subject beginning with the week of June 21st. Also a mention of it during our Media Day golf event at San Juan Oaks. ↗

Boardroom Briefs

- ◆ The Board elected to keep the membership directory as is but to research the possibilities of going to a directory similar to the Southern California chapter's.
- ◆ An article will go out in the newsletter thanking all of the current sponsors for their donations.
- ◆ A move was made to change the GCSANC's liability insurance carrier to that of the GCSAA.
- ◆ A presentation was made to the Board by Donald A. Clemans, CGCS, CPAg, of the Northwest Turfgrass Association. The NTA sponsors turfgrass research and endowments to University turfgrass programs. The NTA could help the GCSANC by co-funding research that would benefit local superintendents.
- ◆ Donations are being solicited for the Scholarship and Research Tournament in August. Any help is greatly appreciated. The tournament format will be Superintendent/Affiliate.

Naumann's NorCal News

Rich Scholes is leaving Corral de Tierra Country Club in Salinas to become the Superintendent at Gold Mountain Golf Course in Graeagle. Rich will oversee the balance of construction of the golf course and prepare it for opening . . . **Chuck Pratt** has left Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland and is now the Superintendent at Tony Lema Golf Course in San Leandro. Tony Lema is now in the middle of a complete reconstruction . . . **Sean Sebastini** has recently completed construction of the Yountville Golf Course and the course has recently opened for play

State Supports Leaf Blower Legislation

The California Golf Course Superintendents Association has decided to come out in support of Assembly Bill 1544. AB 1544 would require cities and counties to consider the economic impacts of prohibitions on taxpayers, consumers, and employment opportunities before adopting any ordinance that prohibited commercial leaf blower use. In addition, those local jurisdictions would have to make a determination with supporting information — that no alternatives would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons. The bill would overturn existing bans on commercial use unless those bans were adopted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the bill or enacted by initiative. AB 1544 is authored by Assemblyman Brett Granlund and sponsored by CLCA. (California Landscape Contractors Association).

Presently this bill is in committee and hopefully will make it to the legislature. Our State legislative advocate George Steffes has written a letter to the legislature to make sure our support is noted. Further notice on the progress of this bill will be forthcoming and action may be required of those CGCSA Network individuals, in the form of phone calls and letters to the appropriate parties. Please stay tuned for more details! ✍

USGA

Cleaning Up Effluent Water

By Pat Gross, Southwest Director

USGA Green Section

More and more courses are using effluent water for irrigation. From an environmental perspective, golf courses and large turf areas are an excellent place for the use of effluent water - most turf species are relatively tolerant of effluent water, the water supplies a small but beneficial amount for nutrients for turf growth and the dense turf canopy filters impurities before the water enters the groundwater table. From a superintendent's perspective, effluent water can have negative impacts on turf and plant growth, with the main concern being high levels of soluble salts. Producers of effluent water will say there is no way to regulate the amount of soluble salts in effluent without the use of extremely expensive reverse osmosis equipment. Increased salt levels come from various sources, but the greatest single contributor to the high salt levels in effluent water are household water softeners, and more specifically, self-regenerative softeners. Self-regenerative softeners are the types that require the homeowner to add large bags of salt pellets on a routine basis. In an effort to reduce the overall salt load in effluent water, many water districts have encourage homeowners to use "exchange tank"-type water softeners that are serviced by private local distributors at central plants. This type of softener release only a small fraction of the salt released by self-regenerative softeners. Unfortunately, local ordinances to require the use of such water softeners have been ruled invalid because (believe it or not) California already has state statutes governing the use of water softeners.

In an effort to improve the overall quality of effluent water and reduce the total salt load, the Irvine Ranch Water District and other water agencies in the State of California, are attempting to amend or appeal the existing state statutes and enact SB-1006, which addresses the use of self-regenerative-type water softeners. This new bill allows local agencies with legitimate concerns about waste water salinity to regulate the self-regenerative softeners, and its application is limited to the areas of the state that are impacted by salt and wastewater. This bill can have a tremendous positive impact on water quality for golf courses, which are believed to be the largest user of effluent water in the Southwest. The increased salt load from water softeners is not only a concern for golf courses, but other agencies in California are concerned about the accumulation of salts in groundwater basins that are used for drinking and irrigation. SB-1006 will help protect the state's water supplies and protect the long-term quality of effluent water for golf courses, agricultural, and other non-potable water demands. Please write to your California State senators and assemblymen to urge their support of SB-1006. /

Grass Carp Use Statewide

Good News!!! According to our State legislative advocate George Steffes, the triploid grass carp will be expanded statewide as of January 1, 2000. Provisions in Senate Bill 472 (Maddy 1997) called for a review of the current program before June of this year. Section 5 (e) of SB 472 states: If the department's annual report is, for any reason, not submitted on or before June 1 of the year due, it shall be conclusively deemed to be the finding of the department that effective June 1 of that year, the use of triploid grass carp to control aquatic plant pests should be expanded statewide.

Use of the triploid grass carp will be according to the laws and regulations of Senate Bill 472. Congratulations go out to Jim Husting, CGCS for all of his hard work and devotion to this matter! /

"Thru the Green" On-line?

A golf Web site developer has approached GCSAA about providing on-line newsletter services to affiliated chapters. The technology provided by this company, Golsolutions.com, is designed so that editors may set up their chapter newsletters on-line, via a Web browser - such as Internet Explorer or Netscape. Any chapter member with Internet access may then go to the site and read the latest news and information available regarding your chapter. Through the site, the GCSANC would be able to distribute articles, post announcements and meeting agendas, deliver timely news, and disseminate other chapter-related information to members.

To get a firsthand look at the site, and view examples of how announcements, postings and chapter newsletters appear on the site, go to: <http://www.golsolutions.com>.

At this time, GCSAA is gauging interest from chapter newsletter editors, executive directors/secretaries and leaders to determine the level of interest in this type of service. We welcome your feedback. You may send e-mail directly at mail to: dbretthauer@gcsaa.org or mail to: jsatterlee@gcsaa.org. /

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Seed Bag Tags To Benefit GCSAA Foundation and the GCSANC

If you are making fall seed purchases, remember that you can help the GCSANC and the GCSAA Foundation at the same time. GCSAA has announced a fund raising program that will benefit its "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" endowment campaign. The program is being sponsored by Turf-Seed/Tee-2-Green. Turf-Seed/Tee-2-Green will contribute 50 cents for every Turf-Seed variety or mixture "blue tag" turned in to The Foundation by GCSAA members through the year 2003, and \$1 for every Tee-2-Green Penn Pals variety or mixture "blue tag" turned in. Fifty percent of the proceeds from this program will be contributed to the campaign, with a guaranteed minimum of \$20,000 per year for the five year program. The other half of the proceeds will be contributed to the participating member's affiliated chapter. While there is no guaranteed minimum for chapters, the money will be donated to chapters in an unrestricted manner to be used as each chapter chooses.

Blue mixture tags must carry an M16 or M16M prefix. A complete list of products qualifying for the program can be found in upcoming issues of Newsline. Tags should be sent with the member's name and GCSAA membership number to The GCSAA Foundation, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049.

For more information, contact Janine Sattler, GCSAA Development Coordinator, at (800) 472-7878 ext. 445. ↗

Harbottle To Remodel Tony Lema GC

Tacoma based Golf Course Architect John Harbottle is set to renovate the Tony Lema GC in San Leandro. The \$4.5 million job will require the course to be closed for 12 to 18 months. All new greens and tees are planned. The routing is to remain the same but the course will be completely remodeled. "You won't recognize it," says Harbottle. The job is especially challenging due to the course's location atop a land fill. Harbottle notes that shapers will not be allowed to go into the ground - but basically build on top of it. The work is set to start this fall. ↗

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